



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/605,466	06/28/2000	Yasuaki Yamagishi	SUGI-T0731	6096

7590

01/05/2005

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL

P O Box 061080

Wacker Drive Station - Sears Tower

Chicago, IL 60606-1080

EXAMINER

HU, JINSONG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2154

DATE MAILED: 01/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/605,466

Applicant(s)

YAMAGISHI ET AL.

Examiner

Jinsong Hu

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 4-32 are presented for examination. Claims 4, 11, 21 and 31 have been amended.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 4-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jeyaraman (US 6,311,187 B1) in view of Nakamura (Pub.No. 2003/0140136).

4. Jeyaraman is a prior art reference cited by Examiner on form 892, mailed on 10/6/03.

5. As per claims 4-6, Jeyaraman teaches the invention as claimed including a transmitting apparatus comprising a transmitting device for transmitting a hierarchical structure of a directory for hierarchically managing locations of contents data [col. 1, lines 17-22], comprising:

managing means for managing a hierarchical structure of a directory [Fig. 6A-6K] composed of a container entry [D, Fig. 6A] and a leaf entry [Se, Fig. 6A], a container entry containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof, a leaf entry being disposed in the immediately lower hierarchical level of a container entry, a leaf entry not containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof [col. 8, lines 14-29];

detecting means for detecting a change of the hierarchical structure of the directory managed by said managing means and obtaining first difference information and second difference information corresponding to the detected result [col. 2, lines 10-12; col. 5, lines 7-8], the first difference information being the difference of container entries, the second difference information being the difference of leaf entries [col. 9, line 40 – col. 10, line 15; col. 406, Fig. 4; col. 14, lines 44-46]; and

transmitting means for transmitting said first difference information, said second difference information and third difference information for reproducing the hierarchical structure of the directory at a predetermined time period independent of said first difference information and said second difference information [408, Fig. 4; col. 2, lines 13-16; col. 14, lines 47-51],

wherein the predetermined time period being variably designated in accordance with operating state information of a receiving side [120, Fig. 1; col. 7, lines 19-24].

6. However, Jeyaraman does not specifically disclose the step of collecting the state information by monitoring operating states of at least one of a receiving side.

Art Unit: 2154

However, Nakamura on the other hand teaches the step of collecting the state information by monitoring operating states of at least one of a receiving side [abstract; col. 1, paragraph 13]. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Jeyaraman and Nakamura because utilizing Nakamura's state information collecting step in Jeyaraman's system would increase the throughput of the entire system by avoiding transmitting data to user when the user's system is in unavailable or overload state. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify Jeyaraman's system with Nakamura's state information collecting step to increase the efficiency of the system.

7. As per claims 7-10, Jeyaraman teaches the third difference information is composed of information of container entries of the hierarchical structure of the directory and leaf entries in the immediately lower hierarchical level of each of container entries [col. 2, lines 13-16] and a predetermined time period [col. 7, lines 20-24].

8. As per claim 11, Jeyaraman teaches the invention as claimed including a transmitting method [col. 1, lines 17-22], comprising:

transmitting the same contents of update information a plurality number of times, the update information [230, Fig. 2] representing that data has been updated [col. 2, lines 16-18; col. 5, lines 14-16],

Art Unit: 2154

wherein the transmission timing of the same contents of the update information transmitted at the transmitting steps is predetermined in accordance with operating state information [120, Fig. 1] of receiving means [106, Fig. 1] that receives the update information from said transmitting means [col. 2, lines 1-24; col. 5, lines 6-16].

9. However, Jeyaraman does not specifically disclose the step of collecting the state information by monitoring operating states of at least one of a receiving side. However, Nakamura on the other hand teaches the step of collecting the state information by monitoring operating states of at least one of a receiving side [abstract; col. 1, paragraph 13]. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Jeyaraman and Nakamura because utilizing Nakamura's state information collecting step in Jeyaraman's system would increase the throughput of the entire system by avoiding transmitting data to user when the user's system is in unavailable or overload state. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify Jeyaraman's system with Nakamura's state information collecting step to increase the efficiency of the system.

10. As per claim 12, Jeyaraman teaches the transmitting apparatus is a transmitting device for transmitting a hierarchical structure of a directory for hierarchically managing locations of contents data [col. 1, lines 17-22], comprising:

Art Unit: 2154

managing means for managing a hierarchical structure of a directory [Fig. 6A-6K] composed of a container entry [D, Fig. 6A] and a leaf entry [Se, Fig. 6A], a container entry containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof, a leaf entry being disposed in the immediately lower hierarchical level of a container entry, a leaf entry not containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof [col. 8, lines 14-29];

detecting means for detecting a change of the hierarchical structure of the directory managed by said managing means and obtaining first difference information and second difference information corresponding to the detected result [col. 2, lines 10-12; col. 5, lines 7-8], the first difference information being the difference of container entries, the second difference information being the difference of leaf entries [col. 9, line 40 – col. 10, line 15; col. 406, Fig. 4; col. 14, lines 44-46]; and transmitting means for transmitting third difference information for reproducing the hierarchical structure of the directory at a predetermined time period along with the first difference information and the second difference information [408, Fig. 4; col. 2, lines 13-16; col. 14, lines 47-51],

wherein the predetermined time period is variably designated corresponding to the operating state information of a receiving side [120, Fig. 1; col. 7, lines 19-24].

11. As per claims 13-19, since they introduce the same limitation as claims 4-10 from different prospective respectively [i.e., receiving side], they are rejected for the same basis as claims 4-10 above.

Art Unit: 2154

12. As per claim 20, since it is a method claim of claim 13, it is rejected for the same basis as claim 13 above.

13. As per claims 21-32, since they are system and method claims of combination of claims 4-10 and 13-19, they are rejected for the same basis as claims 4-10 and 13-19 above.

Conclusion

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinsong Hu whose telephone number is (571) 272-3965. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

Art Unit: 2154

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jinsong Hu

December 21, 2004



JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100